Religion,
2223 Atherton,
Berkeley, Calif.

The Pacific

Pacific School of Religion Berkeley, Calif.

h Year MARCH, 1926 No. 3

RECAST OF THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

lans are already under way which fair to make the program of the ference Week at Asilomar, begin- g July 26, so vitally interesting t no church can afford not to be resented by its pastor and his wife by a group of its central men and nen.

hose who were present last year be delighted to know that Mrs. nk W. Hodgdon has consented to duct an hour of practice in choral ging every morning from 9 to 10. who can read music at all are fted as members of the big chorus ch comprises practically the entire ference, the four parts being ted separately. Those who do not g find the spectacle of Mrs. Hodg- 's leadership, interspersed with words of wit and wisdom, so en- aining that the seats are always . After her splendid work at Asilo- r last summer churches on every d have been eager to arrange for eek of musical revival led by this ed woman.

ollowing the music hour, it is nned to devote on several of the noons an hour and a half to an n forum on some question of vital erest to the people of our churches, ferably some question on which a rp division of opinion may con- ntly be expected. Among these are problem of prohibition enforce- nt and the question of the efficiency the Anti-Saloon League in this te; the merger of the national ieties and its effect on our State ference work; the apportionment blem; the week-day school of re- on; what the layman expects of minister, etc., etc.

he Moderator of the National ncil, Mr. Frank J. Harwood, a lead- business man of Appleton, Wis- sin, has consented to be with us l assist in the discussion of some these problems.

he complaint is almost always de that the Conference program s not allow sufficient time for dis- sion from the floor. The commit- is determined that for once there ll be no ground for this complaint.

he last hour in the forenoon each will be devoted to a paper or dress by some eminent scholar or cialist from one of the universities a theme of intellectual interest to nisters and modern church people. he present plan is to call for the ncipal reports from Conference offi- s as early in the session as Tues- morning. The object of this is to ng the Conference situation before meeting at the very outset, so t there may be ample time to for- late and develop any plans for ion that may be called for.

here will be no afternon program, ept on Monday when it is pro- ed to stage a discussion of the rits and demerits of the various igious weeklies which circulate ong Congregationalists. The other ernoons will be given over to free reation until the five-o'clock hour en courses in mission study and in igious educational problems may be ered.

he evening program each day will lude two addresses, for one of ich it is hoped to secure some aker who is easy to listen to. Plans an entertainment feature on Satur- y evening are being developed.

he last great day of the feast will Conference Sunday. The day will begin with examples of model Bible classes for men and women. It is proposed that the Conference Sermon by Rev. H. V. White be given the place of honor in the Sunday morning service. The Communion Service late in the afternoon will include memorials of those of our number who have been "called home" since last we met. The evening service will be planned as the inspirational climax, followed by the final hour of fellowship and testimony around the fireplace.

ASILOMAR BUILDING RATES

Board and Lodging

	Seven day Conference Period Per Day	Less than Day
Tenthouse—		
Two in room, each	$15.75 $2.50	$2.75
One in room	19.25	
Enclosed Tenthouses 6 and 7—		
Two in room, each	17.50 2.75	3.00
One in room	21.00	
Guest Inn—		
Two in room, each	19.25 3.00	3.25
One in room	22.75	
Lodge—Without Bath—		
Two in room, each	22.75 3.50	3.75
One in room	27.75 4.00	4.25
Lodge—With Bath—		
Two in room, each	27.75 4.00	4.25
One in room	29.75 4.25	4.50

Children—

Five to seven years inclusive—two-thirds rate.

Any child up to five years who eats at table—one-half rate.

Under two years (for bedroom equipment and service—no food furnished from dining hall tables)—One-third rate.

For less than by the Conference period, rates are slightly higher and are computed by the day.

ASILOMAR!

Missionary Education Movement Conference for church leaders, to be held at Asilomar, California, July 6 to 16, 1926.

Summer conferences are coming to mean more and more in our church life. It is important that we avail ourselves of their valuable training and deep spiritual resources. Of all our summer conferences none yield more helpful or practical returns toward the enrichment of the general church life and activities than does the Missionary Educational Movement Conference held at Asilomar, California, every July.

A wonderful program, full of inspiration and practical helpfulness, is being prepared. A faculty of the best leaders to be obtained; missionaries from the homeland and from the far-flung places of the earth; selected speakers and nationally known lecturers, all are being sought for this year's ten-day conference.

Make your plans now! Do not fail to send your church leaders as delegates to this Conference. For information concerning rates and accomodations, address Missionary Education Movement, 443 Chamber of Commerce Building, Los Angeles; or, Missionary Education Movement, 421 Phelan Building, San Francisco.

"The great aim is to form a moral public opinion that will make the threat of war as obsolete and ridiculous as dueling. Anyone who imagines that by any number of conventions and agreements and self-denying ordinances, the world is going to substitute for inhuman, a more humane method of war, lives in a fool's paradise. The hope of the future is getting rid of war itself."—Lord Oxford and Asquith.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUMMER CONFERENCE

The second annual Young People's Conference will be held at Asilomar July 26 to August 2, simultaneously with the Adult Conference. There will be classes for those of senior high school and college age. The subjects will include the Bible, Missions, Life Problems, Principles of Program Building and Organization, and Social Ideals. A strong faculty will be provided. The registration fee will be $2.00 if paid by July 15, after which it will be $2.50. For rates of board and room see statement in another column of this paper.

The mornings will be devoted to classes and the afternoons to recreation in charge of a competent director. The Conference program and faculty will be announced in a later issue of the Pacific.

The delegates should be young people of good character who are recognized leaders in the local church or who have latent ability for such leadership. The application for registration, accompanied by the fee and letters recommending the delegate from the pastor and Sunday School superintendent, should be sent to the Conference Educational Office.

Churches should plan immediately to meet the expenses of the delegates. The expenses might be borne in part by the delegate, by the young people's society or Sunday School and by the Church.

Young people desiring to enter the contest outlined in the January issue of The Pacific must submit their posters, essays, songs, and suggestions for Conference motto to the Contest Committee, 424 Phelan Building, San Francisco, by April 1. Further information about the contest will be furnished on request.

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If your address label is later than April 1926, you need not read further. If your label shows a date prior to April 1926 will you kindly and promptly do one of two things. Preferably, and while it is in your mind, bring your subscription up to date and carry it as far forward as you wish, at the most popular rate of twenty-five cents a year. If you are not interested in doing this will you kindly and promptly send a post card asking us to discontinue your subscription, remembering of course the joy it will bring us if the paper is paid for up to the date of discontinuance. There are six hundred subscribers that should read this all the way through. This appeal should mean at least $150.00 to our treasury. Please respond at once.

AMERICA'S SENSE OF RELATIVE VALUES

In his recent book "Inter-Church Government," Dr. Athearn has given a table under the above-stated heading showing the relative amounts spent annually in the United States on education and religion as compared with several luxuries. A close examination will lead the reader to justify Dr. Athearn's heading of the chapter of the book in which the table is stated, namely, "The Renaissance of Paganism."

Total budget of all Protesant churches per yr.	$ 67,000,000
Public schools elementary, high and normal..	1,000,000,000
Tobacco, in all forms...	1,151,000,000
Theatres and movies...	897,000,000
Ice cream and chewing gum	400,000,000
Cosmetics	750,000,000

Bishop Johnson made a "cash register" comparison of values in America, in a recent number of "The Witness," in the following striking comments:

"If Jack Dempsey receives $500,000 a year for skill in handling his fists; if Charlie Chaplin receives $250,000 for skill in manipulating his face; if Paderewski receives 100,000 a year for skill in playing a piano; if President Coolidge receives $75,000 a year for skill in running the State; if the Surgeon-General of the United States receives $15,000 a year for skill in treating the sick and if the Chief Justice receives $12,000 for skill in dealing with the morals of the nation and the Chaplain-General receives $4000 for skill in spiritual leadership, we get something of an estimate of values as expressed in the world's standard of values, which is money. If a Christain lady spends $10,000 a year in dress and $1000 in charity you get another cross-section of values. If a Christian gentleman spends $100 a week at the Club and puts $1 in the plate on Sunday, here, too, is a cash register of values."

According to the "American Education Digest" here is the accounting of how the American dollar is spent: Living costs, 24½c; luxuries, 22c; waste, 14c; miscellaneous, 13½c; investment, 11c; crime, 8½c; government, 4½c; schools, 1½c; church, ½c.

—From The Pacific Churchman.

Secretary Hinman of the American Missionary Association is conducting six-weeks courses on the subject of "Latin American Neighbors Near and Far," in the churches at Campbell and Saratoga.

YOUR MAZATLAN

The word Mazatlan, to one who has been there, conjures up a blue harbor surrounded by waving cocoanut palms, a headland on which are many pleasant homes, among them our American Board Mission residence; curving beaches on the other side of the promontory protected from the ocean by lovely islands. In the town flowering vines of many colors clamber over walls, and one catches glimpses through open doors of luxuriant gardens. The view within our own school doorway delights one with its cocoanut palms and mangoes. The building, like all others down in the town, is right on the sidewalk, and screens and lattices give privacy, but also effectually keep out the sunshine and light so that the rooms are dark and dank. The teachers eat in the kitchen with the Mexican cement stove in the corner, and one side of the room is open to the weather. The little shack built on the roof for a sleeping room for Miss Wagner is so hot in the day time that it is only fit for a Turkish bath.

The shining faces of the teachers, however, are a joy to remember. Miss Wagner's aim is eventually to have high school and normal work which would attract future leaders to our school. It would be the only school in the state except one in the capital which would be giving this advanced work, the other schools having only six grades or less. The children, about seventy of them, are so happy in this environment, and the standard is high. The school has outgrown its home and as soon as the question of land laws is decided, an adequate building should be put up on the new site which overlooks the water and gets the breezes. This better building would attract many boarders from the towns around and at a distance. As it is, even in the crowded quarters, they have made room for some boarders this year, and some of the teachers have been quartered across the street. Seventeen of the children earn their own way; the others pay tuition.

Just what is the special contribution of our school which would not be emphasized in the other city schools? Discipline, a sense of order, cleanliness of mind as well as body, freedom from superstition, being a good sport and not sulking, honesty, a love of service, are some of the valuable lessons learned there.

News has come of the necessary withdrawal of Mr. Crawford from Mazatlan on account of serious eye trouble, and now another blow to the work has come in the news of Miss Wagner's engagement to be married. She has given it such a good start, however, that another can carry it on, and we are looking for that other. Mr. and Mrs. Champe have been transferred from Tepec to take the Crawfords' place and Mr. Champe, Mission treasurer, in spite of recent newspaper reports, has sent word that the Mission wishes us to go ahead with larger plans for the school than we have yet had, as the building is so overcrowded, Mazatlan so strategic a place, and the prospects for the future so fine.

One may ask why we are doing mission work in a so-called Christian country. It can be truthfully said that every progressive movement in recent times has had to meet the concerted hostility of Roman Catholicism in Mexico, which has not kept up with the development of the country and is quite different from the Roman Catholicism in the States. The Evangelical missionaries, as the Protestants are called, have an influence out of all proportion to their numbers, and have built up a group of strong men and women who can think for themselves. Protestants are in demand in Mexico City for positions of trust as they have already proved themselves worthy.

Best of all, this school is bearing witness in Mexico that Americans in the name of Christ are lovingly putting their lives into that place with only the thought of giving and helping, wishing nothing in return save love, friendship and understanding.

Helen Street Ranney.

CONGRESS ON MEXICAN AND SPANISH-SPEAKING AMERICAN INTERESTS IN THE UNITED STATES

This Congress is to be held in El Paso, Texas, in December of this year. It grows out of the agitation of many workers who are in close contact with the Spanish-speaking people in this country and has also been urged by the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America. Charles E. Vermilya, secretary of the Home Missions Council, has been asked to serve as sponsor in the setting up of the Congress. Various Home Mission Boards are cooperating. The aim is to go into the whole question of conditions, opportunities and privileges of these people in America in order that the various religious bodies may more intelligently provide for the service they seek to render and also that a better understanding of the public's responsibility may be had. To this end many civic and industrial organizations and workers are to be included in the Congress. Five Commissions are to make the preliminary study under the heads of : Education, Religious, Social and Economic Conditions, International and Interracial Aspects, and Literature.

Few people realize the rapid increase of Spanish-speaking people that has taken place in the United States. In 1924 88,000 Mexican immigrants came to the United States. In 1925 the figure was lower, about 33,000 immigrants. It seems difficult to estimate the total number of Mexican and Spanish-speaking people now in the United States.

JAPANESE IN OGDEN

Forty Japanese families are sending their children to the Sunday School in Ogden conducted under the A. M. A., though most of the parents are nominal Buddhists. For some time Buddhist services were held, but now they have been abandoned, on account of lack of support. Troops of Japanese Boy and Girl Scouts are being organized in connection with the work. At the New Year celebration of the Japanese Christian community there were interesting reports from members of a group of young Japanese students just returned from a visit to Japan. For the trip they were organized into a "See and Learn Society" (Ken Gaku Dan). This Ogden Japanese church held a special celebration of Lincoln's birthday.

SPECIAL EASTER PLAY

On Saturday evening, April 3rd, a special Easter play, covering the leading events of Passion week, will be broadcast for all the churches of the Pacific Coast. This service is contributed to the churches by the Boulevard Players of Oakland, through the courtesy of Station KTAB. The play is "The First Easter," in a prologue and three acts, by Wilbur S. Tupper of Oakland. There will also be appropriate Easter music.

Before the Crucifix.....La Forge
Hosanna .....Granier
Soprano solos
Mazurka in D Minor.....
.....August Hinrichs
Cavatina .....Raff
Violin

This program is not commercial. The station is opened specially on the Saturday prceeding Easter, in order that as many people as possible may listen to this play, many of whom might not otherwise hear the Easter story.

The program begins at eight o'clock.

FORTHCOMING EDITORIAL IN MISSIONARY HERALD

Comparisons are sometimes odious, often odorous, and at times ominous. Through the tabular statement on benevolences issued by the United Stewardship Council for 1925 rather startling figures appear—startling for Congregationalists. The statement issued for the year 1921 showed that the United Presbyterians, with a membership of 160,528 gave a total of $3,397,992 for all benevolences over against $3,135,538 for current expenses—better than "fifty-fifty." Their per capita giving for benevolences was $21.16, for home expenses $19.56. The nearest competitor to such a fine record was the Southern Presbyterians with per capita gifts of $14.91 for benevolences and $15.69 for current expenses; almost another "fifty-fifty" achievement. Their membership was only 397,058, while their total benevolences were $5,919,678. Then followed the Evangelical Association with per capita gifts of $10.28 (benevolences) and $15.45 (current expenses). The Northern Baptists were next in line with $10.05 and $13.06 respectively. Below the ten dollar goal came the Reformed Church in America, with $7.49 and $21.43 for these two items, and a total of $1,017,921 in benevolences from 135,898 members.

And where were the Congregationalists? They came sixth in the list, well up towards the top. From our 819,225 members came total benevolences of $5,890,145, current expenses of $15,044,684. These gave us a per capita giving of $7.19 for benevolences and $18.36 for home expenses. It was enheartening to find that we were in such fine standing among our sister denominations.

But now for a study of the tabular statement for 1925, based on 1924 gifts. The figures now are for budget or apportionment giving. The United Presbyterians still hold first place, with a per capita of $14.95 for this purpose. The Southern Presbyterians are holding second place still with $8.58.

The Moravians have come into third place with $8.05. The Reformed Church in America has moved up a peg with $7.37. But where in the line are the Congregationalists now? **In sixteenth place.** Our per capita giving for apportionment benevolences was $3.61. The Northern Baptists are below us with $3.56; the Disciples with $3.36. This is a matter which ought not to set lightly with us. Congregationalists are not accustomed to being sixteenth in the rank of fine achievement. The tragic appeal of our missionary societies finds its reason here. **Less than a cent a day**—our per capita giving for the great causes with which God has entrusted us.

That standard must be lifted and lifted greatly before our missionary obligations to America and to the world can be discharged. In past achievements Congregationalists have had too great a part to be contented with such a small place. We have been called to greater things, and we must heed that imperious call.

HOPE AND FEAR—WHY?

At the meeting of the Prudential Committee held February 9, 1926, information was given of the receipt of a check for $20,000 for a school building at Fenchow, Shansi, North China, as a memorial to the late Watts O. Pye.

At the same meeting the Cabin was asked to prepare a schedule possible retrenchments abroad on t basis of a reduction of $50,000 for 19 At the next meeting of the Committ the discussion of this schedule alo with the question of the transferen of the Rhodesia Branch of the Sou Africa Mission to some other boa if that be possible, will be made t order of the day.

BENEVOLENCES

January 10th–February 28th, 1926

Adin	$ 70.
Alturas	15.
Berkeley First	1,019.
Campbell	5.
Ceres	50.
Crockett	12.
Eureka	50.
Fresno First	156.
Grass Valley	23.
Lodi First	225.
Oakland First	609.
Oakland Fruitvale	31.
Oakland Olivet	10.
Oakland Plymouth	177.
Pacific Grove	159.
Palo Alto	150.
Petaluma	135.
Porterville	25.
Redwood City	150.
Reno, Nevada	13.
San Francisco First	300.
San Jose	135.
San Mateo	72.
Santa Rosa First	20.
Tulare	22.
Woodside	28.
Cloverdale	5.
(A Friend)	35.
Total	$3,706.

DISTRIBUTION

Cong. Women's Miss. So.	$ 34.
Conference	273.
Annuity Fund	46.
Ministerial Relief	62.
Educational Society	62.
Foundation for Education	93.
Church Bldg. Society	171.
Extension Society	186.
American Miss. Society	392.
Women's Board Missions	454.
A. B. C. for Foreign Miss.	803.
Cal. Home Missionary So.	1,126.
Total	$3.706.

Comparative Figures 1925–1926
Jan. 11-Feb. 28.....$3,586.24 $3,671.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Christ in Man-Making, by Herm Harrell Horne. 101 pages. Price 5 The Abingdon Press, New York.

Out of Their Own Mouths, by Osc Macmillan Buck. 136 pages, price 7 postage additional. The Method Book Concern, New York.

Youth Looks at the Church. A dresses, Questions, Discussions a Findings of the National Interdenor national Student Conference, Eva ston, Illinois, 1925-6. 220 pages, pri $1.00. The Abingdon Press, New Yo

The Measure of a Youth, by Rol H. Ayres. 155 pages, price 75c. T Abingdon Press, New York.

When Jesus was a Carpenter, Muriel Clark. 104 pages, price 7 The Abingdon Press, New York.

A Fagot of Torches, by F. W. Bo ham. 268 pages, price $1.75. The A ingdon Press, New York.

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

its January meeting the Confer- Council on Young People's Work, posed of the Committee on Re- us Education and six young le, these included the officers of Summer Conference, appointed a ial Committee to study young le's work in the Conference and rt at the February meeting of the mittee on Religious Education. was done and the following sug- ions of principles and methods e adopted by the committee.

ese suggestions were adopted as rovisional program to be recom- ded to the churches of the Con- nce with the desire on the part he committee that as far as pos- e churches and young people's ips make them a basis of study experimentation for the next few ths so that out of such experi- es and thought they may be dis- ed at the Young People's Sum- Conference. In the light of these eriences and discussions the com- tee will further consider the sug- ions and amend them for com- er statement and circulation in early fall.

he suggestions are as follows:

Object of Young People's Work he development and direction of istian character. This object im- s a fully rounded program includ- expressional activities.

. General features of a Young eople's program—(a) Worship— cing life from God's point of view" hrough (1) public worship and (2) vate devotion. (b) Instruction ough (1) information, (2) study, experience and (4) discussion. Service through (1) the church, the community and (3) the world. Recreation—(1) social, (2) ath- c, (3) dramatic, and (4) musical. Each young people's group should de itself and be graded according the carrying out of such a balanced gram of activities.

As a binding principle among those ntioned is the important one of lowship. The work of the young ople is social throughout. There is up action and group thinking, by ich the individual contribution of ch member goes into the raising the group standard and result.

3. Organization. A Young People's uncil of the Church can be com- ised of the various pupil executives presenting their respective groups, e young people's superintendents, e pastor, the young people's coun- lor appointed by the church to head e Council and promote young ople's activities and efficiency. Pupil ganizations such as senior and in- rmediate Christian Endeavor or in- pendent groups, senior classes in e school, dramatic or other clubs, ould be represented on the council.

4. Existing young people's groups e not to be considered outside of is scheme. There is no thought of placing the older groups which are ganized with new ones. The Christ- n Endeavor leaders in particular ake it plain that they welcome any ldition to or raising of the organiza- on's standards by denominational orkers. The aims and recommenda- ons here included are to be pro- ressively applied either to present rganizations or to such as may be rmed. They can be applied without ffecting the larger relationship in hristian Endeavor. They supersede ie other and older programs, how- ever, in that the scheme is local-church-centered for purpose of correlating the entire work of the local church for its young people. From the standpoint of the local church, the program is functional, seeking to develop all the sides of christian character without too much emphasis on any one to the neglect of another. The duty of carrying on a certain organization or filling up a certain traditional hour is especially abrogated in such a scheme.

5. Community co-operation with other young people's groups is recommended. Interdenominational and inter-church fellowship and co-operation should not be neglected, whether it be carried on through Christian Endeavor unions or other means. All the young people's groups will be lucky if together they can have some effect on the community; what can one church's young people do alone?

6. Denominational fellowship should be furthered through the promotion of association, city, or regional rallies, and conferences. These should be held, if possible, three times yearly with an inclusive gathering at some place like Asilomar. Where isolation forbids such gatherings the fellowship should be maintained by means of visiting teams and workers.

7. Topics for Meetings and Discussion. The use of denominational papers might be suggested for use alone or in conjunction with other papers now in use. For topics and suggestions we recommend the "Wellspring," the excellent Congregational young people's organ; Christian Endeavor series; topics of contemporary interest, such as peace, missionary problems, and the like.

8. Publicity of Activities. Reports of successful projects or methods in young people's work should be forwarded to Mr. Prince for passing on to other groups and for publication in The Pacific. Great benefit will spring from such reports.

9. Ministers and churches ought to be made acquainted with the needs and current aims of young people's work. To this end it is recommended that they be made the subject of discussion at ministers' meetings and church gatherings of all kinds, and that the Conference Office be consulted and kept informed in regard to the young people's work in each local church and association.

Bibles Hymnals General Books

Subscriptions to Magazines
L. C. Smith and Corona Typewriters and Supplies.

Bargain
Hammond Typewriter at $15.00

PILGRIM BOOK STORE
424 Phelan Bldg. San Francisco

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Plans and Methods for Congregational Young People, Stock.

Church's Program for Young People, Mayer.

Handbook for Workers with Young People, Thompson.

Youth and the Church, Maus.

Youth and the Bible, Stribert.

Church Music and Worship, Harper.

The Why and How of Group Discussion, Elliott.

The Church at Play, Richardson.

Handbook of Games and Programs, La Porte.

Suggestions for young people planning to organize a society, giving a model constitution and by-laws and suggested pledges will be sent on application to the Conference Educational Office, 424 Phelan Building, San Francisco.

CHURCH VACATION SCHOOLS

The summer vacation offers a unique opportunity for religious teaching. Usual pursuits are put aside and "whatever comes along" is sure to seize the interest and even the enthusiasms of the child. We owe it to the children of the church and to the children of the streets who know little of the church to open our church doors for summer schools of religious training.

The Church Vacation School aims to help meet the needs of the whole child; physical, mental, social, and moral. To do this it offers instruction in the Bible, in religion by means of nature, literature, music, art, and life. It helps to develop the social nature and broadens the sympathies by teaching the stories of the great adventures of the missionaries and heroes of the Cross. It teaches Christian citizenship, reverence for the body, right habits and the spirit of good will and happiness. It directs recreation and affords expressional activity as a means to character development.

It is generally recognized that more effective religious training is secured through a five or six weeks vacation school than can be done in a year of ordinary Sunday School work. The vacation school is now recognized as a necessary feature of an adequate program of religious education. It is here to stay and to grow in numbers and usefulness in all sorts of communities. Wise are those church leaders who are availing themselves of this agency of religious training.

Plans should now be made for such schools for the coming summer. Wherever local conditions permit the schols should be of the community type in which the local churches co-operate. Usually the best period for these schools is at the close of the public schools for the year. The length of the term will vary with local conditions. In general the term should be for five weeks. It is necessary to secure a strong committee, trained principals and teachers, the best supplies, a favorable building and good equipment, and adequate financial support.

The Conference Educational Office has an exhibit of text books and material for vacation schools and Secretary Prince will gladly advise churches in the establishment of such schools or assist them in securing the service of trained principals.

CHILDREN'S WEEK

The custom of observing Children's Week in the spring has met with general approval. Churches are free to select the week which is most convenient though the first week of May is suggested. Miss Frances Weld Danielson says in regard to the purpose of the week, "One week of fifty-two devoted to a concentrated effort for more effective religious nurture of children—this is the Children's Week idea. It may include children's story hours, parties, as demonstration of modern methods, but the aim of the week is not little children's entertainment, but the inspiration and education of adults in whose hands lies the well-being of children. Nor is the week set apart to consider the physical and mental needs of children. Its purpose is spiritual. Its high endeavor is to shake church school teachers out of their ruts of complacency or despondency, or inadequacy; to place in the hands of youth the burning torch of the teacher; to strengthen the hearts of parents in their desire that their children shall enter into their heritage as sons of God."

To assist in the observation of the week the Publishing Society offers a large selection of program material described in a pamphlet which is free on application. The April issue of the Pilgrim Elementary Teacher, published about March 20, will contain suggestive Children's Week features including a pageant, suggestions for a mother's meeting and articles on, "What Parents Have a Right to Expect of the Church School," and "What the Church School Teacher Expects of Parents." Copies at 10c each and pamphlets on program material may be secured from the Department of Religious Education, 424 Phelan Building, San Francisco.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

The third annual meeting of the Congregational Women's Missionary Society of Northern California was held at First Church, Oakland, on February 2, 1926.

The morning session opened with singing of a hymn and prayer. The address of welcome was made by Mrs. R. G. Arlett, President of the hostess society. Reports of Treasurer and of Secretary of Executive Committee were read and accepted. Secretaries of Cradle Roll, Young People's work, Friendly Relations Committee and Social Service Committee gave short and snappy resumes of the year's work. Mrs. H. L. Holcomb, Secretary of Literature, proved conclusively that missionary literature is important. The morning session closed with the installation of the Officers, Directors and Advisory Board for the coming year. The address was given by Mrs. Dennis Goodsell, and the installing prayer by Mrs. A. P. Peck.

Lunch was served to 200 guests. While at the tables Mrs. Ranney introduced Mrs. Barbara Howland-Taylor, who brought greetings from Mazatlan and Mexico City.

The afternoon session was opened by Mrs. Laura B. Clark who spoke on "Service." Three members of the Etude Club of Oakland sang "Deep River" and "Steal Away to Jesus." Mr. Arnold Joyle spoke on Missionary Education at Asilomar. Mrs. Howard May reported on the State Conference at Asilomar. Mr. Prince told of the Congregational Book Store, giving the women a cordial invitation to consult and use office and pledging to them his hearty support and co-operation. The afternoon session closed with an address by Rev. Frank W. Hodgdon on "The World and Us," and benediction by Rev. Walter B. Williams.

At 2 o'clock, in the chapel, a conference was also held by Mr. Prince and Rev. E. L. Shaver, with leaders in young people's work.

Reports of the latest developments concerning the merging of the National Societies were given by Dr. Minchin, Dr. Swartz and Dr. Brown during the dinner, and Dr. Lois Pendleton spoke on her work in China. The session closed with prayer and benediction by Dr. Leland Rathbone.

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the C. W. M. S. of N. C. is held on the third Thursday of each month at the First Church, Oakland, at 10:45. All women are cordially invited to attend.

THE CONGRESS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A well attended Congress on Religious Education held in San Francisco, February 28 to March 2 awakened much interest along the lines of Week Day religious training with a somewhat heated discussion over the matter of released time. This was an all state gathering and was sponsored by the State Federation of Churches. Dr. Miles B. Fisher was the presiding officer and many Congregational ministers from both north and south were present. A new interest has been developed along lines of better moral and religious instruction in the public schools as well as secondary schools and universities.

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Central, at Ceres.....April 13, 14
German, at Fresno.....April 30—May 3
Sacramento Valley, Paradise..May 4, 5
Santa Clara, at Campbell.....May 5
Upper Bay at Benicia.....June 1
German Y.P.S.C.E., Fresno..April 24, 25

The Pacific

Established 1851

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscription, 25 cents in Advance

Published monthly (except July) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 421 Phelan Building, 760 Market St., San Francisco.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1923.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 421 Phelan Bldg.

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Sacramento Valley Association, Rev. H. H. Gill.
San Joaquin Association, Rev. S. C. Carson.
Santa Clara Association, Rev. F. W. Morrison.
Sonoma Association, Mrs. C. I. Hooper.
Upper Bay Association, Rev. Edmund Owens.

FAREWELL MR. HOLMES AND WELCOME MR. HOLMES

After nearly eighteen months of office fellowship, first as Associate to Dr. Kelsey and then in his own right, we are asked to part with his services in the interest of the denomination at large. This is due to the action of the National Council in Washington which recommended the closing of the District Offices in favor of a new method of promotion.

The Conference, however, is to be congratulated in that it is to have the full time and continued presence of Mr. Holmes as he now becomes the pastor at Santa Rosa and enters into the fellowship of the pastors. Santa Rosa is happy; the ministers are all happy; Mr. Holmes is happy—always happy—and the fact that he can serve on our committees and lend cheer to our many denominational gatherings means that we will have resident with us a missionary and a brother beloved. We wish him and the Santa Rosa Church abundant success.

MRS. HODGDON AT SARATOGA

A Letter of Appreciation

My dear Dr. Minchin:

It would be difficult to speak too highly of Mrs. Hodgdon's work in Saratoga. She gave us an understanding we had never had before of the help that can come to people's lives through the music in which everyone can participate. The best result of it all is the spiritual quickening. Her work with the girls and boys is superb. The musical training she gives them is of great value. But more important is the seed she sows in their minds and hearts which will bear fruit in every part of their natures, physical, mental and spiritual in the years to come. I could not conceive of a more wholesome influence being brought to bear upon them. She also demonstrates that the greatest benefit we can bring to them is not so much through what we can do for them as through what they can do for the church. If we could have someone like her to stay all the time with every church, it would solve many problems.

Mrs. Hodgdon has a sympathetic understanding and consummate tact that enables her to smooth out difficulties and bring cheer and encouragement to many hearts in every community she visits.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Roscoe D. Douglass.

Ceres—The Ceres Church is putting on a strong program for the Lenten period. A special course of morning messages; a series of group cottage prayer meetings; Sunday evenings for February and March combining the Endeavor and Church service with the young folks in charge, the pastor having the last fifteen minutes. These are proving very successful in every way. Ceres Church plans four Passion week services with special features each night.

The young people are interested in putting in a tennis court in the vacant lot north of the church.

The Methodist and the Christian Churches joined with the Congregational in sponsoring the Biblical drama, "The Shadow of the Cross." It was presented in the Ceres High School by the Wright California players of Los Angeles to a crowded house and was well received.

Central Association meets at Ceres April 13 and 14, with the Pacific School of Religion furnishing the program Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Oakland—Calvary—A farewell reception was given Rev. W. J. Thompson and family in the church parlors on December 16th. The ladies of the church presented the pastor and his wife with a steamer robe as a fitting gift for them, to use on their voyage, as they sailed December 23rd on the Matsonia, for Hilo, Hawaii, where they will take up new work with the First Foreign Church.

Dr. C. C. McCown, Professor in the Pacific School of Religion, has accepted the call as pulpit supply for Calvary Church until such time as they may secure a permanent pastor. Dr. McCown has been with the church on several occasions and they feel they are to be congratulated in securing his services. They are very much pleased with Dr. McCown's splendid sermons.

On January 12th Calvary Church held it annual meeting. Interesting reports of different departments were given, and the church is looking forward to a better year for Calvary during 1926. The women's association served dinner at 6:30. Everyone present enjoyed the program. Dr. and Mrs. McCown were present.

PITTSBURG FACES COMPETITION

For several years our church has served this city as a Community Church. With the rapid growth of the city other denominations wish to enter. The Methodist Episcopal church has asked the Comity Council for permission to enter the field and a survey has been ordered, covering the whole territory along the tide-water. Mr. Champlin, our pastor at Pittsburg, thinks the answer to this challenge is an aggressive program. He needs all possible assistance in making our church the foremost church despite the new enterprises that may enter the lists.

Oakland-Fruitvale—At a meeting held Wednesday, March 3rd, the Fruitvale Church unanimously called Rev. Fenton O. Fish to the pastorate Mr. Fish comes to us from Portland, Oregon. He will begin his pastorate immediately.

Religion is a prime necessity for the man who wishes success, according to Mr. Curtis, for "character goes hand in hand with men of ability who get the big jobs. And for character development a young man should have religion."

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY

The Superintendent was recently invited to Williams to visit a Federated Church. It is a union of the Disciple and the Methodist Church, South. The pastor is Rev. Thomas Watt, formerly a pastor in this conference. The work is in very fine condition; the audience was exceptionally good and the spirit most cordial. Like other churches of this type they felt the loss of touch with the outside world and were advised to have some missionary goal and objective that they might develop the expressional side of their church life.

On a recent trip south, the Superintendent visited Salinas and had an interview with Rev. Pedro Rovola, who is ministering to the Filipinos in that section. It appears that the largest group of these people living in California are in and around Salinas. This missionary work was started about a year ago and supported by the A.M.A. It will be turned over to the Conference about April 30 and we trust that our missionary leaders and teachers will consider this one of the fields for closer study and a place to support more substantially.

On the same trip a visit was made with some of the leading supporters of the San Juan Church. A minister, by the name of Kearny of the Pentecostal Church, has been working with the church for nearly a year and has made many friends by his kindly service. The Sunday School is regularly maintained, had an attendance of 51 that morning, and an effort was being made to canvass the membership. Members are received on the basis of the Congregational Statement of Faith and a good spirit prevails.

In a recent committee meeting we learned that our San Mateo Church, under the direction of Dr. Kloss, has opened its doors Sunday afternoons for Japanese services conducted by our Japanese Church in San Francisco. It also developed that in the regular sessions of the San Mateo Sunday School there were two to three classes of Japanese children with an attendance of from 50 to 60.

With regret we learn that Mr. Alexander Granger, who as a layman has served our Pescadero Church for nearly two years, is leaving the town. He will be greatly missed. He writes that Mrs. Migrant, whose husband is in charge of the lighthouse there has taken the Sunday School and will carry on when he leaves. In this Sunday School we have a number of Japanese children.

While in the San Joaquin Valley recently we found a new spirit among our German brethren. They look with great favor on their return to the more direct supervision of this Conference, when in the merger arrangements they are transferred to us from the National Home Missionary Society.

With a slight change in offices we will still retain the central or reception office at 421 Phelan Bldg. It may be well to direct all mail for the Conference, the A. M. A. and the American Board to this one room. In the reorganization of rooms we need three good sized rugs to make them more attractive to visitors. We do not wish to spend money for them but will welcome even slightly used rugs of neutral colorings.

The Women's Club of the Sebastopol Church entertained delegates from Santa Rosa, Petaluma and Kenwood at their missionary meeting March 4th. There was a musical program, and Mrs. Ranney spoke of the World Neighborhood.

MARTINEZ CHURCH ROOFLESS

Fire ruined the roof of this church Sunday morning, February 14. It caught from a defective flue. The replacement cost will be about $3,500. It was insured for $3,000. There is some talk of seeking a new location and constructing a modern plant. This ought to be done as the present building is old and unsuited to present day work. While we sympathise with Martinez in its loss we trust that it is one of the things that may prove a blessing. We need a great building fund to help these churches quickly and generously in such times as loss by fire or other disaster. Some generously minded giver should give the Conference a fund that will be available for use in emergencies. We had hoped that the Green Street funds might have been so used but it was otherwise decreed.

PERSONALS

Dr. Charles L. Kloss of San Mateo is to take a party through Europe this summer under the direction of the Temple Tours. He will be gone from June 5 to August 28.

Dr. William Rader who has been supplying so acceptably at Santa Rosa since the reopening of our work there has been asked to supply for Dr. Kloss during his absence.

The Superintendent visited Rev. Arthur Bunce at the California Sanitarium, on a recent trip down the peninsula, and found him and Mrs. Bunce greatly improved in health. Mr. Bunce is an ideal patient and deserves a health reward for his optimism and patience in a long sickness.

Rev. Fenton O. Fish has been supplying at the Fruitvale Church with splendid satisfaction.

Dr. Sidney A. Weston of the Pilgrim Press is to visit San Francisco the last of March with reference to the establishment of a Book Depository.

Rev. Harold Kingsley, director of Negro work for our denomination, is visiting us with reference to the growth of Negro population in the East Bay section. A demand has come for a Negro Congregational Church and a survey of the field will be conducted.

Rev. Irving M. Channon and his wife, missionaries at Mindanao, Philippine Islands, have been visiting in San Francisco and sailed March 6th on the President Cleveland. They are both on the Faculty of Silliman Institute Bible School. This is a union school with Presbyterian and Congregationalists working. Mr. Channon is the dean of the institute.

Dr. Lewis A. Stark, after a year at Big Creek comes to Antioch as a stated supply. Antioch is feeling the impetus of the great developments going on at Pittsburg and may find new justification for its work in its ministry to those who seek residence in and near their city.

Dr. Oswald W. S. McCall is on a lecture trip in the east and is reported as having spoken at the Chicago Sunday Evening Club in Orchestra Hall on a recent Sunday evening.

Dr. Stark, who is now supplying the church at Antioch, reports that they are reorganizing the Sunday School there. They have twenty-five children and five teachers ready to start work, with a new superintendent. The graded lessons are being introduced in place of the older type, and they have every hope that the work will go forward rapidly now. Antioch Church has extended to Dr. Stark a call to become their pastor.